

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) : A synthetic silica glass for use with light having a wavelength of 150 to ~~[[200]]~~ 190 nm, which has an OH group at a concentration of less than 1 ppm, an oxygen-excess type defect at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^{16}$  defects/cm<sup>3</sup> or less, a hydrogen molecule at a concentration of less than  $1 \times 10^{17}$  molecules/cm<sup>3</sup>, and a non-bridging oxygen radical at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^{16}$  radicals/cm<sup>3</sup> or less in the state after the synthetic silica glass is irradiated with light of a xenon excimer lamp having an energy density of 10 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> and 3 kJ/cm<sup>2</sup>.

2. (Currently amended): A synthetic silica glass for use with light having a wavelength of 150 to ~~[[200]]~~ 190 nm, which has an OH group at a concentration of less than 1 ppm, an oxygen-excess type defect at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^{16}$  defects/cm<sup>3</sup> or less, a hydrogen molecule at a concentration of less than  $1 \times 10^{17}$  molecules/cm<sup>3</sup>, and a non-bridging oxygen radical at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^{16}$  radicals/cm<sup>3</sup> or less in the state after the synthetic silica glass is irradiated with light of an F<sub>2</sub> laser by  $10^7$  pulses at an energy density of 10 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup>/pulse.

3. (Original): The synthetic silica glass as defined in claim 1 or 2, which has an oxygen-deficit type defect at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^{14}$  defects/cm<sup>3</sup> or less.